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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Paul Edmonds et al.

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Title : UNIVERSAL INTERFACE FOR VOICE ACTIVATED ACCESS TO  
MULTIPLE INFORMATION PROVIDERS

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1-4, 41-46, 51, 53 and 57-60.

Please amend claims 5, 47, 49, 52 and 54-55.

5. (Amended) A universal interface for accessing one or more information systems from a user telephone, the universal interface comprising:

an input converter for converting input from the user telephone to commands;

an interface control module coupled to the input converter for receiving the commands from the input converter; determining one of the information systems to be accessed; converting the commands to commands recognizable by the information system; forwarding the converted commands to the information system; receiving data from the information system; detecting the form of the data from the information system; and storing information relating to a current state of the system;

a speech-to-text routing switch coupled to the interface control module for receiving data from the information system and control data from the interface control module;

a speech-to-command converter coupled to the interface control module for converting speech to commands, wherein the speech-to-command converter is coupled to the speech-to-text routing switch to receive speech and to forward commands to the interface control module;

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